

## Message Text

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64

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /155 W

----- 087644

R 261259Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2187

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0746

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SCUL, MZ

SUBJ: TRIAL OF SPANISH PRIESTS

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES A-132, T-350 (NOTAL) AND PREVIOUS

1. RAND DAILY MAIL OF OCTOBER 24 QUOTES ATTORNEYS FOR PRIESTS AS SAYING THAT TRIAL HAS AGAIN BEEN POSTPONED, AND WILL NOT BEGIN BEFORE MID-NOVEMBER.

2. FATHER MARTIN, DUTCH PRIEST WHO IS ONE OF THREE VISITORS SPANISH PRIESTS ARE ALLOWED WEEKLY, PRIVATELY BELIEVES THAT TRIAL WILL NEVER TAKE PLACE, AND THAT PRIESTS WILL BE QUIETLY EXPELLED AFTER OCTOBER 28 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. HE TOLD  
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US THAT IF SPANISH PRIESTS ARE BROUGHT TO TRIAL, A NUMBER OF

PRIESTS WERE PREPARED TO GIVE TESTIMONY WHICH WOULD BE VERY EMBARRASSING TO PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT. FATHER MARTIN SAYS SPANISH PRIESTS ARE IN FAIRLY GOOD SPIRITS, DESPITE BEING KEPT IN SPEARATE SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, BUT THAT ONE OF THEM WAS QUITE SICK RECENTLY.

3. COMMENT: SINCE REVIVAL OF ATROCITY STORIES WITH NEW ECCLESIASTICAL SUPPORT WOULD BE MOST UNWELCOME TO PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT, FATHER MARTIN'S SPECULATION SEEMS QUITE PLAUSIBLE.  
VAN OSS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 26 OCT 1973  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** LOURENCO MARQUES  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRIAL OF SPANISH PRIESTS  
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